

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A system is provided for effecting a dynamic switch from an existing
client-server connection established between a client node and a server node
on a data-packet-network (DPN) to an alternate server-node connected to
the network and accessible to the client node. In a preferred embodiment,
the system utilizes a unique software module residing on and executing from
a client-node, which functions to monitor current quality of service (QoS)
10 data relative to existing client-server connections. The module opens
temporary client-server connections to alternate servers while a user is
connected to an existing server for the purpose of sampling QoS
characteristics of the alternate servers and associated network paths and
generating estimations of total value of services. The module compares
15 actual QoS values with estimated values and selects an alternate server based
on results of the comparison. A dynamic switch of server connection may be
automatically achieved, which is largely transparent to a user operating the
client node.